

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 17 is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, the title has been amended to be more indicative of the claimed invention, the specification has been amended to update the patented status of the parent application, and a new abstract directed to the present invention has been presented. Accordingly, the objections to the title and abstract should now be overcome.

Additionally, by the present amendment, claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 12 and 15, which claims stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Douche et al or under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Douche et al, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof such that the rejections have been obviated and a discussion of the cited art in relation thereto is considered unnecessary.


Since only allowed claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 17 remain in this application, applicants submit that this application should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,

Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.36874CV3),
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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